

House Bill 995

By: Representative Greene of the 149th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to motor vehicles and
2 traffic, so as to change certain provisions relating to free license plates and revalidation
3 decals for certain disabled veterans; to change certain provisions relating to special license
4 plates for disabled veterans not qualified under Code Section 40-2-69; to change certain
5 provisions relating to parking permits for persons with disabilities; to repeal conflicting laws;
6 and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to motor vehicles and traffic, is
10 amended in Code Section 40-2-69, relating to free license plates and revalidation decals for
11 certain disabled veterans, by adding a new subsection to read as follows:

12 "(d) The signature of any applicant or licensed physician submitted for purposes of an
13 application under this Code section shall not be required to be notarized."

14 **SECTION 2.**

15 Said title is further amended in Code Section 40-2-70, relating to special license plates for
16 disabled veterans not qualified under Code Section 40-2-69, by designating the existing
17 provisions as subsection (a) thereof and adding a new subsection to read as follows:

18 "(b) The signature of any applicant or licensed physician submitted for purposes of an
19 application under this Code section shall not be required to be notarized."

20 **SECTION 3.**

21 Said title is further amended by striking subsections (a), (b), and (c) of Code Section
22 40-6-222, relating to parking permits for persons with disabilities, and inserting in lieu
23 thereof the following:

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1 “(a) The Department of Motor Vehicle Safety shall issue parking permits for persons with
2 disabilities at every place where it issues drivers’ licenses. The department shall also
3 receive applications for and issue parking permits for persons with disabilities by mail and
4 shall by regulation require such proof of disability or incapacity as is necessary to issue
5 such permits by mail. The signature of any applicant or licensed physician submitted for
6 purposes of an application under this Code section shall not be required to be notarized.

7 Permits shall be in such form as the department prescribes but shall be of sufficient size
8 and sufficiently distinctively marked to be easily visible when placed on or affixed to the
9 driver’s side of the dashboard or hung from the rearview mirror of the parked vehicle.
10 Permits shall be made of plastic or heavyweight cardboard and shall be of sufficient quality
11 to ensure that the coloring of the permit and the ink used thereon will resist fading for a
12 period of at least four years. Permits shall be issued to individuals, and the name of the
13 individual and an identification number shall appear on the permit. The individual to whom
14 a permit is issued may use the permit for any vehicle he or she is operating or in which he
15 or she is a passenger. Permits shall also be issued to institutions when the primary purpose
16 of a vehicle operated by the institution is to transport individuals with disabilities. The
17 name of the institution, the license number of the particular vehicle, and an identification
18 number shall appear on the permit. The institution may use such permit only for a vehicle
19 which is operated by the institution and which is used primarily to transport individuals
20 with disabilities.

21 (b) The department shall issue a temporary permit to any temporarily disabled person
22 upon presentation of ~~an affidavit of~~ a certification by a practitioner of the healing arts
23 stating that such person is a temporarily disabled person, the specific disability that limits
24 or impairs the person’s ability to walk or that he or she is a person with disabilities as
25 specified in subparagraph (G) of paragraph (5) of Code Section 40-6-221, and a date until
26 which such person is likely to remain disabled. The temporary permit shall be
27 predominantly red in color and shall show prominently on its face an expiration date the
28 same as the date specified by the physician for the likely termination of the disability,
29 which date shall not be more than 180 days after the date the permit is issued. The
30 expiration date shall be printed in a size of print that is legible when the permit is hung
31 from the rearview mirror or displayed on the driver’s side of the dashboard.

32 (c) The department shall issue a permanent permit to any person who is obviously
33 permanently disabled and to any other permanently disabled person upon presentation of
34 ~~an affidavit of~~ a certification by a practitioner of the healing arts stating that such person
35 is a permanently disabled person. The ~~affidavit~~ certificate shall further state the specific
36 disability that limits or impairs the person’s ability to walk or that he or she is a person with

1 disabilities as specified in subparagraph (G) of paragraph (5) of Code Section 40-6-221.
2 The department shall also issue a permanent permit to an institution which operates
3 vehicles used primarily for the transportation of individuals with disabilities, upon
4 presentation of a certification from the institution regarding use of its vehicles. The
5 institution shall receive permits only for the number of vehicles so used and shall affix the
6 permits to the driver's side of the dashboards of such vehicles. The permanent permit shall
7 be predominantly blue in color and shall show prominently on its face an expiration date
8 four years from the date it is issued. The expiration date shall be printed in a size of print
9 that is legible when the permit is hung from the rearview mirror or displayed on the driver's
10 side of the dashboard."

11 **SECTION 4.**

12 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.